

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 8/20/2007.

Claims 13-15 are pending in this application. Claims 13-15 are independent claims. In the amendment filed 8/20/2007, Claims 1-12 were canceled and claims 13-15 were added as new. This action is made Final.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schubert et al. (US 7047491) in view of Gormley et al. (US 5806057) further in view of Fenton et al. (US 6910049).

In regards to claim 13, Schubert teaches displaying a material data collection screen in response to the staff member's selection of a material data collection function

in the function selection screen (See Figure 1), and performing a material data collection to register collected material data to a material data list, the common data being created based on the material data (See Figure 1 Column 7, Lines 56-61); displaying a common contents creation screen including the material data list in response to the staff member's selection of a common contents creation function in the function selection screen, and performing a common contents creation (See Figure 1, Column 7 Lines 56-61, the user can add information), the common contents creation including the substeps of:

(a) displaying selected material data contents in response to the staff member's selection from the material data list, and performing an initial setting of parameter items by extracting keywords prepared by the system creation (See Figure 1, Column 7 Lines 56-61, the data is automatically filled in);

(b) updating the material data when items of the material data are edited by the staff member, and checking the updated material data by a wording filter (See Figure 1 save command and Column 7 Lines 56-61, the data is automatically filled in from the default values are thus filtered into the appropriate locations).

Schuber does not teach displaying a staff screen when a log-in user is a staff member and after displaying the staff screen, displaying a function selection screen. Gormley teaches, displaying a staff screen when a log-in user is a staff member and after displaying the staff screen, displaying a function selection screen (See Figure 3 and 4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Schuber with the teachings of Gormley and include a log-in screen

with the motivation to provide for greater security since only selected persons would be able to change information.

Schuber and Gormley do not teach, (c) sending a request for approval of the updated material data to a staff manager, displaying a common contents approval screen including a list of the updated material data for which approval is requested when a log-in user is a staff manager; displaying the updated material data in response to the staff manager's selection from the updated material data list of the common contents approval screen for accepting the staff manager's approval or disapproval; and registering the material data approved by the staff manager as the common contents.

Fenton teaches sending a request for approval of the updated material data to a staff manager, displaying a common contents approval screen including a list of the updated material data for which approval is requested when a log-in user is a staff manager; displaying the updated material data in response to the staff manager's selection from the updated material data list of the common contents approval screen for accepting the staff manager's approval or disapproval; and registering the material data approved by the staff manager as the common contents (See Column 24, Lines 25-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Schuber and Gormley with the teachings of Fenton and include an approval mechanism for a manager with the motivation to provide the manager with closer control over a project since he/she will be directly involved with all of the necessary changes to a document.

Claims 14 and 15 are similar in scope to claim 13; therefore they are rejected under similar rationale.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

***Inquiry***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boris Pesin whose telephone number is (571) 272-4070. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday except every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/B. P./

/Steven P Sax/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2174